Application No.: PCT/US02/38422 Amdt. dated 21 January 2005

Preliminary Amendment before entry into U.S. National Phase (PCT)

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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing Of Claims:

Claim 1 (original) An apparatus that attaches to the underside of ski boots that assists walking while wearing ski boots, comprising:

- a. a footbed made from resiliently elastic material that provides springiness to the walking motion, and;
- b. an attachment means for removably attaching said footbed to the underside of ski boots.

Claim 2 (original) An apparatus that attaches to the underside of ski boots that assists walking while wearing ski boots, comprising:

- a. a footbed made from resiliently elastic material that provides springiness to the walking motion, said resiliently elastic material comprised of one or more members of elastomeric material layered or connected together, and;
- b. an attachment means for removably attaching said footbed to the underside of ski boots.

Claim 3 (original) The apparatus, as in Claim 1 or 2, further comprising one or more elastomeric tread pads connected to the underside of said footbed, which provide traction while walking.

Claim 4 (original) An apparatus that attaches to the underside of ski boots that assists walking while wearing ski boots, comprising:

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 a footbed made from resiliently elastic material that provides springiness to the walking motion, said resiliently elastic material comprised of one or more members of elastomeric material layered or connected together;

- b. an attachment means for removably attaching said footbed to the underside of ski boots, and;
- one or more elastomeric tread pads connected to the underside of said footbed,
 which provide traction while walking.

Claim 5 (original) The apparatus, as in Claim 1, 2, or 4, further comprising a lengthwise stiffening member connected to or encapsulated in said footbed.

Claim 6 (original) The apparatus, as in Claim 1, 2, or 4, further comprising a resiliently elastic pad attached on top of said footbed.

Claim 7 (original) An apparatus that attaches to the underside of ski boots that assists walking while wearing ski boots, comprising:

- a. a footbed;
- b. an attachment means for removably attaching said footbed to the underside of ski boots, and;
- c. one or more elastomeric tread pads connected to the underside of said footbed, which provide traction while walking.

Claim 8 (original) The apparatus, as in Claim 7, said attachment means further comprising a clip at one end of said footbed which engages the front or rear edge of the sole of a ski boot, and a lip of rigid material on the inside opposite end of said footbed which fits over the top of the upper edge of the end of a ski boot's sole opposite said clip.

Claim 9 (original) The apparatus, as in Claim 7 or 8, further comprising a pad, made from resiliently elastic material that provides springiness to the walking motion, attached on top of said footbed.

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Claim 10 (original) An apparatus that attaches to the underside of ski boots that assists walking while wearing ski boots, comprising:

- a. a footbed with a molded arch, with said arch's apex pointing upward;
- b. an attachment means for removably attaching said footbed to the underside of ski boots, and;
- c. one or more elastomeric tread pads connected to the underside of said footbed, which provide traction while walking.

Claim 11 (original) The apparatus, as in Claim 10, further comprising a pad, made from resiliently elastic material that provides springiness to the walking motion, attached on top of said footbed.

Claim 12 (original) The apparatus, as in Claim 10 or 11, said attachment means further comprising a clip at one end of said footbed which engages the front or rear edge of the sole of a ski boot, and a lip of rigid material on the inside opposite end of said footbed which fits over the top of the upper edge of the end of a ski boot's sole opposite said clip.

Claim 13 (original) An apparatus that attaches to the underside of ski boots that assists walking while wearing ski boots, comprising:

- a. a footbed made from resiliently elastic material that provides springiness to the walking motion, said resiliently elastic material comprised of one or more members of elastomeric material layered or connected together;
- b. an attachment means for removably attaching said footbed to the underside of ski boots;
- c. an elastomeric tread connected to the underside of said footbed, which provides traction while walking;
- d. a lengthwise stiffening member connected to said footbed, and;
- e. a slippery coating on the topside of said footbed.

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Claim 14 (original) The apparatus, as in Claim 13, wherein said attachment means is one or more straps connected to said footbed, whose ends extend over the foot portion of the ski boot and fasten to each other, thereby gripping said footbed against the ski boot.

Claim 15 (original) An apparatus that attaches to the underside of ski boots that assists walking while wearing ski boots, comprising:

- a footbed, separated into front and rear sections, made from one or more members of resiliently elastic material that provides springiness to the walking motion;
- b. said footbed's front and rear sections having a means of engaging and gripping the toe and heel of the sole of a ski boot, respectively;
- a connection means connecting said footbed's sections together, allowing said footbed's sections to slide apart lengthwise far enough to accommodate the length of a ski boot sole and slide back together again, and;
- d. a means of providing a spring-like force that pulls said footbed's sections together.

Claim 16 (original) The apparatus, as in Claim 15, further comprising an elastomeric tread connected to the underside of said footbed, which provides traction while walking.

Claims 17-19 (canceled)